

SB 718 -- VOLUNTEER LABOR ON PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS

SPONSOR: Richard (Davis)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Committee on Workforce Development and Workplace Safety by a vote of 9 to 0.

This bill specifies that a workman on a public works project who agrees in writing to volunteer his or her labor without pay as defined in the bill must not be deemed to be employed on the project and cannot be entitled to the prevailing hourly rate of wages. An employer must not force, compel, or intimidate an employee into performing work as a volunteer for which the employee otherwise would be paid a prevailing wage.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the bill will encourage volunteer community projects without incurring financial liability for the public body.

Testifying for the bill were Senator Richard and Missouri AFL-CIO.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.